have heard me. I was told that Dr. Subbarayan also reminded the Chair that I wanted a division. Of course the resolution would not be supported by several Members because . . ."

* The hon. the PRESIDENT:—" Order, order. The hon. Gentleman is not entitled to make a further speech on the Orissa question. I would explain the matter as it took place yesterday. I did not see the hon. Member from Ganjam alert enough in asking for a poll, and after I sat down, I looked at him especially when Dr. Subbarayan, the Leader of the Opposition, told me that Mr. Patnaik was asking for a poll. But when I looked at the hon. Member, he was busy talking to some other hon. Member. Therefore I thought that he was not serious about asking for a poll. That is all I can say about that matter."

NON-OFFICIAL BUSINESS.

BILL.

VI. THE TIRUMALAI-TIRUPATI DEVASTHANAMS BILL.

* Mr. SAMI VENKATACHALAM CHETTI:—" Mr. President, I beg to move that, in the Tirumalai-Tirupati Devasthanams Bill, clause 36 be reopened for discussion."

* The hon. the PRESIDENT:—" I think the House is agreeable to the reopening of the clause 36 as agreed upon the other day."

The House signified its assent.

* Mr. SAMI VENKATACHALAM CHETTI:—" I move—

'*that in clause* 36 (*vi*) add *at the end the following words*: " *and the training of Adhyapakas and Vedaparayanikas* ".'

" I made myself clear during the second reading of the Bill that a certain service which consists in the reciting of *Nalayira prapandams* and *Vedams* by a Ghoshti has got to be maintained in every *Vaishnavite* temple, but of late, for want of support, that *Ghoshti* is languishing and it is desirable that that institution should be kept up. So long as we are making provision for the utilization of surplus funds, it seems to me desirable, consistent with the objects for which the other provisions have been made, to devote some money for the training of persons for the purpose of chanting the *Nalayira Prapandam* and *Vedas*. These two services are included in these two words '*Adhyapakas* and *Vedaparayanikas.*' I therefore move this amendment."

Rao Bahadur T. M. NARAYANASWAMI PILLAI:—" I second it."

Mr. V. M. RAMASWAMI MUDALIYAR:—" I have no objection to the suggestion of Mr. Sami Venkatachalam Chetti. But to one who would read the section it would give the impression that we are trying to enumerate exhaustively, the various persons to whom such training is to be afforded at the cost of the Devasthanam. I do not think even the Mover of this amendment does contemplate that between the archakas and the two sets of persons he has mentioned the list of all persons engaged in religious worship and ceremonies of the Devasthanam, is exhausted. I would therefore suggest that the clause would be all the better and at

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the same time serve the purpose of the Mover of this amendment if instead of the word 'archakas' we substitute the word 'persons' which term, without in the least degree trying to be exhaustive will mean all persons who are engaged in the performance of religious worship and ceremonies. I think, therefore, in the interests of the draftmanship of the Bill, if the term 'persons' be substituted for 'archakas' this amendment would become unnecessary.

"I move my amendment."

* Mr. Sami Venkatachalam Chetti:—"Mr. President, I am glad that my hon. Friend, Mr. Ramaswami Mudaliyar, does not object to the object of my amendment, but as a matter of better draftsmanship he would suggest the word 'persons' be substituted for 'archakas.' I am afraid that while he agrees with me with regard to the object of my amendment he is making some confusion with regard to the ceremonies performed in the Devasthanam and ceremonies performed outside it. I quite agree that if the persons I have in view were in the category of persons who are attached to the temple and have got to perform ceremonies and worship in the temple, it is unnecessary for me to move this amendment. But I have in mind a set of persons who are not obliged to do service in the temple, nor does it form part of the worship and ceremonies in the Devasthanam. It is a service which is rendered while procession of the idol moves on and only a particular set of people can join in it and recite those particular *slokams* and *sthothrams*. They do 11-45 a.m. not belong to the regular category of servants of the Devasthanams, nor are they paid servants of the temple who are called Ghoshti. That Ghoshti may consist of persons who do not belong to the service of the temple but who are in a position to recite these Vedams and Nalayira Prapandams. It is exactly for the reason that they do not belong to the service of the temple that much encouragement is not given to them by the temple authorities. It is upon the public support that they are living now. Nowadays that public support is not coming forward. It is to make up that want of support from the public and also to see that persons should be trained in that particular service I want to move this amendment. I use the word 'service' not in the sense of paid-service where the servants are bound to perform the service allotted to them, but in the sense that every human being is willing to place his services before God. I suppose I have made myself clear to my hon. Friend, Mr. V. M. Ramaswami Mudaliyar, and even at the risk of bad draftsmanship I would request him to allow this amendment to go forth."

Diwan Bahadur C. S. Ratnasabhapati Mudaliyar:—"I move that in the amendment given notice of by Mr. Sami Venkatachalam Chetti, the words 'maintaining a Ghoshti' be omitted."

* Mr. Sami Venkatachalam Chetti:—"I myself omitted them when I moved my amendment."

Diwan Bahadur C. S. Ratnasabhapati Mudaliyar:—"I accept the amendment."

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* The hon. the PRESIDENT:—" The question is—

'*that in clause* 36 (*vi*) add *at the end the following words*: " *and the training of Adhyapakas and Vedaparayanikas* " '."

The amendment was carried.

Diwan Bahadur C. S. RATNASABHAPATI MUDALIYAR:—" I now move—

'*that Bill No.* 15 *of* 1931, *as amended, be passed into law* '."

Mr. V. M. RAMASWAMI MUDALIYAR:—" I beg to second it."

* The hon. the PRESIDENT:—" The motion is—

'*that Bill No.* 15, *as amended, be passed into law* '."

* Mr. SAMI VENKATACHALAM CHETTI:—" Mr. President, on behalf of those who are sitting on this side of the House (A voice: 'Not all.') I have very great pleasure to thank those hon. Gentlemen who gave notice of several Bills in respect of the management of Tirumalai-Tirupati Devasthanams. Ultimately it fell to the fortunate lot of my hon. Friend Mr. C. S. Ratnasabhapati Mudaliyar to shoulder the responsibility of piloting this Bill and I have no doubt that he will concede to the Members of the Select Committee their due share of work in shaping this Bill in the form in which it is now to become law. The Bill as originally introduced in this Council provided for the complete removal of the Mahant from the management of this Estate and vested large powers in an executive officer subject to the superintendence and control of the Hindu Religious Endowments Board. I have no doubt that the main motive of that Bill was to divest the Mahant from the control and management of the Devasthanams and its properties. Beyond that, it must be said that it did not go on liberal lines. While trying to transfer a single man's power from one person, the Bill contemplated to place the whole power again in the hands of another in the person of an executive officer subject to the control of the Hindu Religious Endowments Board. In conformity with the times and with the ideas of representative Government, the Select Committee could not tolerate that one particular individual autocrat should be replaced by another. Therefore, the Select Committee placed the management of this Devasthanam and its endowments in a Committee which would compose of persons elected by the Hindu hon. Members of this Legislative Council. It is on this point a good deal of controversy arose in this Council and I am afraid that the attitude of hon. Members who misunderstood the object of confining the election to the Hindu Members of this Council as having been an attempt to create a communal electorate is thoroughly unjustified. As has been explained by the hon. Member, Mr. Raman Menon, the original idea was that the Hindu Devasthanams must be managed by persons elected by those who have an interest in the Devasthanams and it is a natural law that particular institutions should be managed by those persons who have an interest in those institutions. Therefore, Sir, in order that that electorate might be manageable, it was decided that the electorate should be confined to the Hindu Members of this Council. I do not think

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there is in anything which we did a conflict with our opinions in regard to the joint electorate or the communal electorate. Of course hon. Members like Mr. Pannirselvam and others might willingly misunderstand us and try to fling an argument or two against us but he himself would realize that in institutions like this those people who have got an interest have to take a share in the matter of election, but with regard to the general administration of the country, Hindus, Muhammadans and Christians have an identity of interests. Therefore, it is that we want a general electorate. In regard to Hindu institutions I cannot conceive of any interest of Muhammadans or Christians coming in.

"Apart from that, coming to the powers of the committee that are provided in the Bill, it seems to me that they are consistent with a controlling committee. The committee is not however allowed to interfere with the detailed administration of the Devasthanams. It 12 noon. can lay down policy and exercise a general superintendence and control over the acts of the executive officer. It can prevent mismanagement and rectify defects in the institutions. In several ways it can safeguard the interests of the Devasthanams. It would be unwise to vest a committee of that sort with more powers. In local bodies and similar self-governing institutions, we have come to realize that it would conduce to efficiency if the actual detailed administration was left in the hands of an executive officer instead of in the hands of unwieldy councils and committees. This Bill has wisely taken note of that fact and provided for the appointment of an executive officer to attend to the detailed administration of the Devasthanams. But I should like that the officer should be one in the active service of the Government and not a retired officer or a private person. At one time all of us were agreed on that principle but gradually one after another was converted to the new creed. And they all began to argue with the zeal of a new convert. I hope that, from whatever cadre the executive officer is recruited, he will discharge his duties honestly and efficiently so that any suspicion that may exist against officers not belonging to the active service of the Government may be falsified.

"Then with regard to the utilization of the surplus funds of the Devasthanam, I am afraid the very wise suggestion of the hon. the Advocate-General was not accepted. It would satisfy many a devout Hindu if he could safely rely that the funds of the Devasthanam would not be applied to purposes not consistent with the objects of the Devathanam. In regard to the institutions governed by the Hindu Religious Endowments Act, the danger does not arise because many of the institutions have no surplus funds. But the Tirupati Devasthanam has got a lot of surplus funds and it is necessary that the Committee appointed by this Government should not be tempted to spend the funds on objects which are not consistent with the objects of the Devasthanam.

"I hope when this Bill becomes law it would remove the complaints and grievances which have become very audible recently and improve the Devasthanam not only financially but also in the atmosphere of piety and holiness associated with such places.

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"I would be failing in my duty if I did not express, on behalf of the Council, our gratitude to Mr. Ramalingam Chettiyar who has rendered a great service as Chairman of the Select Committee. Apart from the several problems he had to tackle as Chairman, he had to satisfy some people who were rather impatient and thought that every day's adjournment meant so much further trouble in the Devasthanam. They suspected adjournments much. Mr. Ramalingam Chettiyar sacrificed some of his holidays in the summer to sit up and draft the clauses in the Bill embodying the ideas agreed to in the Committee. He evinced such a wonderful tact that the Committee found no difficulty in understanding things quickly and coming to quick decisions. I wish every select committee had a chairman like him. I wish also to refer to the hon. Minister, Mr. Muniswami Nayudu. Though he would not like to commit himself to any particular line in the matter of this Bill, yet his silence was more eloquent to show in what particular manner he would like this question to be tackled. I have no doubt that on the whole he is thoroughly satisfied with the Bill and that most of the sections in it reflect his own opinions. But all this work could not have been done so quickly and so smoothly but for the valuable assistance given to the Committee by our Secretary, Mr. Krishna Ayyar. He was ever ready to help us out of any legal or drafting difficulty. His suggestions were always most acceptable to the Committee. The actual drafting of very many of the sections in the Bill fell to his lot. The clear and concise nature of the Act shows the legal acumen which Mr. Krishna Ayyar possesses in abundance. I should therefore express our gratitude to him for the service he has rendered. Finally the thanks of the Council are also due to the Members of the Select Committee who have brought this task to a successful conclusion."

* Mr. M. A. Muthiah Chettiyar:—"Sir, I rise to support the motion that the Bill be passed into law. It is rather unique that this Bill has been sponsored by hon. Members belonging to different sections of the House. A measure of this kind dealing, as it does, with a great religious institution, will not be effective unless it is able to command the support of large sections of the community. The members of the Select Committee with the help of their able Chairman, Mr. Ramalingam Chettiyar have carefully considered this Bill. It is gratifying to find such a degree of unanimity in regard to this measure, in this House. Ever since the late Raja of Panagal, the then Leader of the Justice Party, passed the Hindu Religious Endowments Act though against the strong opposition of certain sections of the people, there has been a healthy change of public opinion in favour of the control of these religious institutions, especially the bigger ones. The Hindu Religious Endowments Act is very useful in regard to the smaller institutions, but in regard to big institutions like the Tirupati Devasthanam with an income of Rs. 15 lakhs a year, it is not possible for the Board to exercise as effective control as is desirable. I do not mean to suggest that the temple was mismanaged or anything of that sort. But everyone interested in the temple would like to be assured that the temple

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was managed fairly well. When the Bill was introduced first, the Movers of the Bill were not definite about what powers the Mahant had formerly, what he had now and what he should have in the future. There was some controversy about it in the Select Committee and they have finally decided the question in a satisfactory manner. Some Members wanted that the Mahant should be removed altogether from the administration of the temple, because they said that the Mahant had not managed the temple as well as one would expect. But he has been the head of this institution and it is but fair that he should be associated with the management of the temple. I am glad that the Select Committee have recommended to keep the Mahant as one of the permanent members of the Committee of management. With regard to the Executive Officer again, there was some controversy in the Select Committee as to whether he should be a retired officer or one in the active service of Government. It was said that a retired officer may not conduct himself properly and may not be as responsible to the Committee and the Government as an officer in the active service of Government who would look forward to rejoin his service. But as the Bill lays no such restriction, I hope, whoever be the officer appointed, whether one in active service or a retired officer, an officer or a non-official, that he will conduct himself properly. Especially as it is proposed to pay him a decent salary, it is expected that a person of some reputation and standing will be chosen for this important post.

" The hon. Member from the City of Madras referred to the attitude of my revered leader, the hon. Mr. Muniswami Nayudu on this question. I must say that he has been very fair to all—to the Movers of the Bill, to the Mahant who is the present administrator and to the Hindu Religious Endowments Board. It was generous on the part of the Leader of a Party with such a strength in the Council not to have openly expressed his personal views but patiently waited to hear the opposition. If he said yes or no it would be that and nothing else. (Mr. Sami Venkatachalam Chetti: ' And take the gems from the Opposition.') He was considerate to the Opposition, considerate to one and all. I hope you would admit that the Opposition are not here to waste their time on useless points but to make useful suggestions. The hon. Member from the City, himself made many good suggestions which have found their way into the Bill. Although the hon. the Chief Minister was in favour of the principle of the Bill, he always kept an open mind in the matter. The Bill has been passed so far with a unanimous vote of the House. It is unanimity that is required more than anything else in such matters. With these few words I strongly support the motion to pass this Bill into law."

* Rao Bahadur Sir A. P. PATRO:—" Sir, songs of eulogy and hallelujah have been sung melodiously on both sides of the House. But if I rise to strike a jarring note in the midst of this cheerful atmosphere both on the side of the Opposition and on the side of the Ministerialists it is only with a desire to draw the attention of the House, not as a monitor or critic but as an old Member that a serious matter like this

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should not be dealt with in this way of frivolity and levity. I have noticed that speeches have been interrupted with questions and cross-questions and vain hilarity so often that it gives one the impression that we are not at all serious in dealing with this matter.

12-15 p.m. "Pardon me, Sir, if I have to point out as an old Member, that the manner in which the debate has taken place is not at all dignified and satisfactory. I am very sorry to say so, but I am sure it will be accepted and understood in the spirit in which the remarks are offered, not as one of criticism but as one of advice on the manner in which we should transact the business of this House.

"Going into the merits of the Bill, it is very gratifying that this Bill has received the support of all sides of the House. This is not a Bill of the Ministerialists or of the Opposition; but it is a Bill of this House fully supported by both sides. The provisions of this Bill have been very carefully drafted and it gives no room for any further criticism. If we can see the soul of late Sir Subrahmanya Ayyar hovering above, it will be gratifying for him to see that his labours to systematize and regulate the affairs of this Religious Endowment and Devasthanam of Tirumalai have succeeded and that, after so many years, the administration of this temple has been placed on a proper and satisfactory footing. We have had many troubles and so many complaints about the management of these devasthanams and about the utilization of the surplus funds. These complaints have been made for nearly half a century. But I am glad that the management of the affairs regarding the great Devasthanam of Tirumalai and Tirupati have now been placed on a satisfactory footing. A Committee will be appointed not only to look after the secular affairs attached to these temples but also religious affairs, and the utilization of the surplus funds.

"I will draw the attention of the House to a very important point that was raised by the amendment of Mr. Arogyaswami Mudaliyar, viz., about the electorates being Hindus, about the Hindus having the right of voting for the election of Members to the Committee . . ."

* The hon. the President:—"I do not think the hon. Member will be justified in provoking a discussion on that point; it has already been discussed and decided upon. It will not be useful at this stage to introduce any further controversy on the point."

* Rao Bahadur Sir A. P. Patro:—"Sir, I bow to your ruling, though I do not agree with it. I did not raise this point in any spirit of criticism; but it is a matter of grave importance to this Province where you have got depressed classes who are untouchables in such a large majority and whose interests have to be guarded and safeguarded by this House as the guardian and trustee of the rights of various people in this Province. This House has a right to consider whether or not these depressed classes have the right of taking part in the election of Members to the Committee. The question whether they are Hindus or not must be seriously considered and stated. Therefore I ventured to raise this point. I do not want that this aspect of the question should

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be lost sight of on this occasion. The question will come up on proper occasions and the House must seriously discuss it and come to right conclusions.

"I shall say, Sir, a few words about the administration of surplus funds. I am glad that the hon. Member from the City made the suggestion; it is a very important point; the performance of the religious ceremonies and the recital of the Vedas and Prabandams are now losing ground; they are not done properly in some temples and they are altogether ignored in others; our ancient religious culture is being very much neglected. I am glad that an addition has been made definitely and specifically with a view to see that the recital of the Vedas and other religious ceremonies are restored to their proper level. If this biggest devasthanam takes a lead in this matter, others are likely to follow. I am glad that a definite provision has been made in this Bill to devote a portion of the surplus funds for the purpose of seeing that the recital of the Vedas and Prabandams is improved."

* Diwan Bahadur C. S. Ratnasabhapati Mudaliyar:—"Sir, I thank Mr. Sami Venkatachalam Chetti and the Chairman of the Select Committee for the help they have given me. It is now my duty to convey my thanks and that of the other Movers of the Bill for the cordial support which all the Members of the Council have given to this Bill. It is now fully 9 months since this Bill was moved in this House and the Select Committee met on 12 days. The Members of the Select Committee have bestowed their best attention for improving this Bill. As all hon. Members are aware, this Bill has come out very much improved from its original form and for that, credit is greatly due to Mr. Sami Venkatachalam Chetti. I must say that he has been taking greater interest in the Bill than the Movers themselves. I say therefore that our thanks are due not only to the Chairman of the Select Committee but also to Mr. Sami Venkatachalam Chetti for the improved form in which the Bill has been passed finally. It was thought when the Hindu Religious Endowments Act was passed, that it would apply to the Tirumalai-Tirupati Devasthanams. But owing to the ingenious interpretation of the Legal Advisers of the Mahant, those devasthanams have escaped the clutches of that Act. It was thought for a long time that a measure of this kind should be introduced to bring those important devasthanams under the provisions of that Act with a view to improve the administration of those temples, and that object has been achieved by this Bill. When the Bill was introduced in this House, there was a considerable section of the public who were criticizing why the Matams of Tiruvaduthurai, Tirupanendal and of Dharmapuram were not touched. I am sure that this Bill is only a fore-runner of other Bills to follow with a view to improve other important institutions which pertain to Saivatism. I am sure this will be done before the life-time of this Council. With these few words I once again thank all the sections of the House for the interest they have evinced in the passing of this measure and also for the support they have given to this Bill. At frequent stages of the Bill it was thought that there would be considerable opposition to this Bill, but all those fears have vanished and the Bill has now come to be passed into an Act."

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Swami A. S. SAHAJANANDAM spoke in Tamil:—

" திருமலை-திருப்பதி தேவஸ்தான நிர்வாக விஷயமாக ஓர் பில் கொண்டு வந்து அங்கீகரிக்கச் செய்ததற்காக கனம் முதன் மந்திரியவர்களுக்கு வணக்கங் கூறுகிறேன்.

" இந்து மதபரிபாலன சட்டம் தோன்றி சுமார் பத்தாண்டுகளாகியும் தாழ்த்தப்பட்ட வகுப்பினர் தேவஸ்தான கம்மிட்டிகளுக்குத் தேர்தலில் நிற்க முடியவில்லை. ஆனால் சென்ற ஆண்டுகளில் டாக்டர் சுப்பராயனவர்கள் இரு அங்கத்தினர்களை நியமனஞ்செய்தார். இப்போது எல்லாக் கமிட்டிகளிலும் நியமனமில்லை. தேர்தலே இருக்கிறது. அதில் ஆதிதிராவிடர்கள் நின்று வரமுடியவில்லை. லோகல் போர்டுகளில் ஸ்தானங்கள் ஒதுக்கிவைத்திருப்பதால் அதில் தாழ்த்தப்பட்டவர்கள் நிற்க முடிகிறது. தற்போது வரப்போகும் சீர்த்திருத்தத்திலும் ஸ்தானங்கள் ஒதுக்கும்படி கேட்கிறோம். அப்படியே தேவஸ்தானக் கமிட்டிகளிலும் இடம் ஒதுக்கிவைக்கவேண்டும். அப்படியே திருப்பதி-திருமலை தேவஸ்தான நிருவாகக் கமிட்டியிலும் ஒரு ஸ்தானம் ஒதுக்கிவைக்கவேண்டும். தேர்தலிலோ அல்லது நியமனத்திலோ ஒரு ஸ்தானம் தாழ்த்தப்பட்டவர்களுக்கு ஒதுக்கவேண்டும். திருப்பதிக்குச் செல்லும் தாழ்த்தப்பட்டவர்களுக்கு வசதி தேடவும், தேவஸ்தான கலாசாலைகளில் தாழ்த்தப்பட்டவர்களுக்கு இடம் கிடைக்கவும் கவனிப்பதற்கு தாழ்த்தப்பட்டவர்களுக்கு என ஒன்றிருக்கவேண்டும். சாதாரணமாக இந்து என்னும் பதமிருப்பது போதாது. தாழ்த்தப்பட்டவர்களுள்பட இந்துக்கள் என்றிருத்தல்வேண்டும். இது விஷயமாக செலெக்ட் கமிட்டியில் ஆனவரைக்கும் வாதஞ்செய்தேன். ஒருநாள் கனம் டாக்டர் சுப்பராயனவர்கள், கனம் ராஜா மிர்ஜாபுரம் முதலானவர் ஆதிதிராவிடர் கள் கமிட்டியிலிருக்கவேண்டுமென்று தீர்மானித்தார்கள். அந்த நடவடிக்கையும் அனைவருக்கும் கொடுக்கப்பட்டது. அதன் மறுநாள் அதனைத் திருத்திவிட்டார்கள். சட்டமிருப்பதுமாத்திரம் போதாது அனுபவத்தில் வரப்பார்த்தலே உசிதம். ஆதலால் தாழ்த்தப்பட்டவர்களை கமிட்டியில் அங்கத்தினராக்கவேண்டியவாறு திருத்தவேண்டுகிறேன்."

* The hon. the PRESIDENT:—" The question is—

'*that the Tirumalai-Tirupati Devasthanams Bill, as amended, be passed into law*'."

The motion was carried and the Bill was passed into law.

VII.—RESOLUTIONS ON MATTERS OF GENERAL PUBLIC INTEREST.

SERVICE OF COPYISTS AND COPYIST-EXAMINERS IN THE REVENUE COURTS.

12-30 p.m. * The hon. the PRESIDENT:—" Discussion on Mr. Hameed Khan's resolution [a] will now be resumed. Mr. Nachiyappa Goundar will move his amendment."

* Mr. K. A. NACHIYAPPA GOUNDER:—" Mr. President, Sir, I move—

'*that in line 2 of the resolution after the word " Revenue " the words " and Civil " be inserted.*'

" In moving this amendment, Sir, I should like to draw your attention to the poor lot of the copyists in the civil courts and in the Judicial Department as a whole. They have been agitating for a very long time to get a permanent footing in their posts; but their attempts have not been successful. They were drawing a nominal pay of Rs. 14–8–0 in the year 1922. Owing to their constant agitation and repeated representations, they are supposed to have been given some encouragement in the shape of raising their wages from 10 to 15 pies per every 150 words or fraction thereof. Subsequently, their

[a] Vide Council Proceedings, dated 3rd August 1932.